

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A torsion module of a torque detection device for a steering
2 system of a motor vehicle, the torsion module comprising:
3 a first ring attachable to a steering wheel;
4 a second ring;
5 a spoked wheel attached on a top side to the first ring and attached
6 on a bottom side to the second ring, the spoked wheel having a hub, a rim, and
7 bending spokes which join the rim to the hub, the bending spokes being bendable
8 in the event of a rotation angle offset between the hub and the rim in response to a
9 torque applied to the steering wheel; and
10 a measuring sensor placed on at least one of the bending spokes, the
11 measuring sensor being operable for generating a signal as a function of a bending
12 force experienced by the at least one of the bending spokes as the at least one of the
13 bending spokes bends in response to a rotation angle offset between the hub and the
14 rim;
15 the spoked wheel further having bending-resistant limit stop spokes
16 placed alternately between the bending spokes, each bending-resistant limit stop
17 spoke having a free end that protrudes radially from the hub towards the rim, the
18 free ends of the bending-resistant limit stop spokes being engaged with respective
19 regions of the rim in such a manner as to permit a rotational angle offset between
20 the hub and the rim while limiting the maximum rotation angle offset between the
21 hub and the rim;
22 the hub, the rim, the bending spokes, and the bending-resistant limit
23 stop spokes of the spoked wheel being concentric to one another;
24 the first and second rings having inward-pointing projections adjacent
25 to the regions of the rim engaged with the bending-resistant limit stop spokes to
26 form axially separated limit stops which enclose the free ends of the bending-
27 resistant limit stop spokes on the top and bottom sides of the spoked wheel in order
28 to prevent axial movement between the hub and the rim.

1 2. The torsion module of claim 1 wherein:
2 the measuring sensors include strip strain gauges.

- 1 3. The torsion module of claim 2 wherein:
2 the strip strain gauges are placed on different sides of different ones
3 of the bending spokes.
- 1 4. The torsion module of claim 1 wherein:
2 the rim and the bending-resistant limit stop spokes are placed such
3 that they are located in one plane and have the same extent in the axial direction.
- 1 5. The torsion module of claim 4 wherein:
2 the first ring is a spacer ring.
- 1 6. The torsion module of claim 4 wherein:
2 the second ring is part of a base plate of the steering wheel.
- 1 7. The torsion module of claim 1 wherein:
2 each region of the rim engaged with a free end of a bending-resistant
3 limit stop spoke includes a limit stop arrangement having two bulges that project
4 inward from the rim.
- 1 8. The torsion module of claim 7 wherein:
2 the bulges of each limit stop arrangement are separated at a distance
3 from each other leaving a limit stop gap.
- 1 9. The torsion module of claim 1 wherein:
2 the spoked wheel is insertable into a recess of the steering wheel, the
3 recess having an inward-directed projection forming a torque support which
4 positively engages into the rim of the spoked wheel.